



# The Go-Back Club

Newsbooklet of the Simple-Living Brigade: #19, March 2015

*This is OUR paper: [www.gobackclub.org](http://www.gobackclub.org)*

Our members live in 18 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, Korea and Nigeria.



Photo by Norm Lanier

*Honeydukes sells real-world sweets inspired by the series, at Wizarding World of Harry Potter in Florida.*

## 400,000 Harry Potter Fans – and J.K. Rowling – Just Won a Deal to Get Child Labor Out of Chocolate

Harry Potter stood up for his world's most vulnerable people. Now, legions of real-world kids are too — by demanding Fair Trade certification for products sold in their hero's name.

YES! Magazine: January 13, 2015

**D**ou can now eat your Chocolate Frogs without the guilt.

Today, Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc., producer of eight Harry Potter films (with three spin-offs in the works), has announced plans to source Harry Potter-related chocolate products, like the magic frogs inspired by the books, from certified Fair

Trade or 100 percent UTZ Certified cocoa.

The announcement comes after a four-year campaign by the fan activist group the Harry Potter Alliance (HPA), anti-slavery activists, and even Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling herself, to convince the studio to stop buying cocoa from a company called Behr's Chocolate, which has a poor record on human rights and child labor.

**Harry Potter** *continued on page 3*

# Grassroots Activism Full-Out

*Proposed Bivouac CAFO (confined animal feeding operation), Big Cove Creek Watershed, Ayr Township, Fulton County PA; Bivouac is proposed facility of Country View Family Farms/CFC Fulton (CV/CFC) Properties/Hatfield Quality Meats Status of Actions – as of January 29, 2015; prepared by Marjorie Palmer Hudson, edited; see previous articles at [www.gobackclub.org](http://www.gobackclub.org) (December 2014 and January 2015)*

## Nutrient Management Plan

### PAG-02

**November 2014:** We have heard core drilling on the property, mostly out of sight over the ridge and within the field we refer to as a bowl, where the buildings and bio-retention basins are proposed. This occurred two days in the middle of the month. We think this activity is to obtain information for either revision of the PAG-02 or defense of the existing information.

**December 2014, anticipated:** As the Determination letter listing the 47 deficiencies had a 60 day deadline for CV/CFC response, we anticipate some sort of response by December 21. Upon receipt, we will review and respond accordingly.

**December 24, 2014:** PA DEP has received a revised set of Land Plans and a revised set of Drainage Maps and a Revised PAG-02. These revised plans and documents were obtained from PA DEP by our attorneys as a continuation of Discovery in the Nutrient

Management Plan Appeal, and which are pertinent to the Revised PAG-02 Permit Application. The Revised PAG-02 Permit Application was prepared to address the DEP October 21, 2014, Determination Letter which listed the 47 deficiencies.

**January 19, 2015:** The revised Land Plans, Drainage Maps, and Revised PAG-02 Application were received by our attorneys January 13, 2015, having been obtained from PA DEP as a continuation of Discovery in the Nutrient Management Plan Appeal, and which are pertinent to the Revised PAG-02 Permit Application. As soon as I was able to obtain complete sets of the revised information, that information was placed in Dropbox: CAFO Opposition, on January 19, 2015.

## Component 2, Sewage Facilities Planning Module

**January 6, 2015:** PA DEP issued an Approval Letter for the Component 2, Sewage Facilities Module, as published in eFacts. Terry Swope has signed up for automatic notices from eFacts, and checks the PaBulletin weekly for updates, keeping us up-to-date.

**January 8, 2015:** Filed Right to Know with PA DEP.

**January 9, 2015:** Received Right to Know receipt confirmation from PA DEP. **January 16, 2015:** Received reply letter from PA DEP advising the department would take up to 30 days to make requested documents available. Since unable to determine

what the approval in eFacts means to me, filed Right to Know with Ayr Township, in case they had received information.

**January 16, 2015:** Filed Right to Know (RTK) with Ayr Township for any CAFO information received since last request.

**January 19, 2015:** Received RTK confirmation and copy of 01-06-2015 Approval Letter. The RTK to Ayr Township and a copy of the Permit Approval Letter received by Ayr Township, were placed in Dropbox: CAFO Opposition, on January 19, 2015.

## Water Quality Management Plan

**December 11, 2014:** Received link to Transcript from Bivouac Public Hearing from PA DEP Community Relations Coordinator. [www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/south-central\\_regional\\_office/13781/community\\_information/592731](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/south-central_regional_office/13781/community_information/592731). This file is also being copied to the Dropbox. Was advised DEP is getting all of the oral and written comments into one document, which will be the document used to respond to the comments. Was not given an estimated time frame for the DEP response.

The DEP's response to the application will be published in the PA Bulletin, at which time there will be a period within which the response can be appealed. If you have formulated additional comments, please forward to me so I may send these to the attorneys, who will be preparing to appeal, if necessary. Help with advance preparation is greatly appreciated.

## What on Earth is The Go-Back Club? A Simple-Living Brigade.

**Our Motto: Use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without.**



Fair Use Logo

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**Contributors:** Carole Baker, Ekwe Chiwundu Charles, Allen Hengst, Marjorie Palmer Hudson, Pyong Roh, Bob Schmetzer, Judy Weglar-ski and Collin Yeoh

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What is The Go-Back Club about?

We want to change people's hearts. Our members live simply (or try to) so that our collective carbon footprint grows smaller and

smaller every day. We are working toward a common goal of reducing our individual impacts on climate change to protect future generations and all life.

Who are we trying to attract?

We hope to reach people who are concerned about global warming and realize that they are part of the problem but don't know what to do. We invite them to join our Club.

What are we trying to achieve?

Our members are part of the global movement of people who know that global warming is an immediate threat and who want to prevent further harm and even reverse the situation.

We look to others for inspiration.

**People are "like a blind man walking randomly toward a cliff. The only thing that will save him is to go backwards."** Michael Mann (climate scientist and member of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change), to John and Iona Conner about climate tipping points on a visit to Penn State, where Mann is director of the Earth Systems Science Center  
**"Our life is frittered away by detail. Simplify, simplify, simplify! Simplicity of life and elevation of purpose."** Henry David Thoreau

Please send us your stories and photos. We rely on our members' contributions.

Harry Potter *continued from page 1*

After years of pressure, Warner Bros. announced that by the end of 2015, “and sooner when possible,” all Harry Potter chocolate products sold at Warner Bros. outlets or their licensed partners will be ethically sourced.

The success is just the latest for the HPA, a group that mobilizes fans to follow the lead of their fictional hero and enact change in the world.

“This is a validation of fan activism, the idea that fans of stories can work together to effect change in the real world.”

Rowling’s Harry Potter fought against Lord Voldemort and the evils he represented, like fascism, tyranny, and slavery. But he also stood up for vulnerable people who needed looking out for. For years, the HPA has helped fans focus that moral lens on the violence and abuses of their own world, big and small. In 2010, they raised more than \$120,000 to send relief planes to Haiti after the earthquake. They have also collected more than 200,000 books to stock libraries around the world, and called out extreme economic inequality. For legions of followers inspired by Harry’s integrity, buying cocoa produced in exploitation and slapping a Harry Potter label on it was intolerable.

Raising money and donations is critical work for any organization. But changing corporate policy and ending support for forced labor? That’s another, more difficult assignment.

Henry Jenkins, a media scholar who coined the term “fan activism,” said the win was “without precedent.”

“I have not located any examples of organizations able to sustain the level of activity the HPA has, over such an extended period of time, on multiple fronts, and to achieve such clear and unambiguous successes in terms of the goals they have set for themselves,” he told Lauren Bird, a representative of the HPA.

To accomplish their goal, The HPA partnered with Walk Free, an international organization dedicated to ending modern slavery. The two groups met with Warner Bros. executives, and delivered a petition with more than 400,000 signatures asking the studio to end contracts with cocoa-producing businesses that don’t protect workers’ human rights.

“This goes beyond raising money and donating books,” Bird told me in an email. “This is over four years of creative organizing, educating, collaborating, and negotiating. For the HPA, this is a validation of fan activism, the idea that fans of stories can work together to effect change in the real world.”

While this single change is not likely to

change the lives of many cocoa farmers directly (“Harry Potter chocolate is not a huge market,” Bird admitted), Bird said that small victories can pave the way to larger ones.

“Given the popularity of Harry Potter, we have a real chance to see a domino effect with other companies feeling pressure to follow suit,” Bird told me. “It is our hope that other major corporations look to Warner Bros. and take their lead in establishing better ethical sourcing practices ... we may yet see a real improvement in the cocoa industry and the lives of cocoa workers.”

**Not in Harry’s Name: A History**

The Harry Potter Alliance’s longest-running and most ambitious campaign is now in the books as a success. Here’s how it happened.

Our “Not in Harry’s Name” campaign is drawing to a close as we celebrate a huge victory: Warner Bros. brand chocolate frogs will be Fair Trade certified by the end of this year. The *Washington Post*’s Alyssa Rosenberg wrote a fantastic piece debuting the news this morning: How Harry Potter Fans Won a Four-Year Fight Against Child Slavery.”

Right before Christmas, Warner Bros. quietly gave “Harry Potter” fans what was, for some of them, a long-wished-for gift. In a letter to Andrew Slack, the founder of the Harry Potter Alliance, Joshua Berger, the company’s president for Harry Potter Global Franchise Development, announced, “By the end of 2015, and sooner when possible, all Harry Potter chocolate products sold at Warner Bros.

1. 2008: After giving a speech at the Cambridge, MA Yule Ball, HPA President and Imagine Better Movement Director Andrew Slack was approached by HPA member Lisa Valdez. Lisa brought the idea of encouraging Warner Bros. to produce fair trade chocolate frogs to Andrew’s attention. We learned that Warner Bros. was using chocolate that was not certified fair trade and ran a strong risk of being made by child slaves.
2. 2009: We began preliminary research on fair trade chocolate, during which we discovered that Warner Bros. was



Photo by Pop Culture Geek  
Chocolate frogs, like this one in the Honeydukes window, will be Fair Trade certified by the end of 2015.

using the Frankford Candy Company as a supplier.

3. Andrew reached out to the Frankford Candy Company to collect information regarding the ethical standards by which they sourced their cocoa. It became clear that their response was not indicative of Fair Trade practices and the cocoa was, in fact, unethically sourced.
4. The HPA’s senior staff began brainstorming for the campaign, discussing parallels to Harry Potter and ways to set our mission in motion.
5. 2010: Over the summer, we ran in the Chase Bank Community Giving Challenge and — with the help of Esther Earl and Nerdfighteria — we won. We then began planning our Deathly Hallows Campaign, which sought to fight against seven “real-life horcruxes. ...”
6. On October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010, Andrew and author John Green hosted a Livestream event to officially launch the Deathly Hallows Campaign. ... YouTubes at [http://www.yesmagazine.org/people-power/harry-potter-fans-and-jk-rowling-launch-slave-free-chocolate-company?utm\\_source=YTW&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_campaign=20150116](http://www.yesmagazine.org/people-power/harry-potter-fans-and-jk-rowling-launch-slave-free-chocolate-company?utm_source=YTW&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=20150116)



Photo Center for Environmental Education and Development

*Lands of Gassol community that have been allocated to Dominion Farms. The photo shows the link road constructed by UBRBDA and the use of the lands for grazing by the local community.*

## U. S. Company Threatens Nigerian Farmers and Their Land

“... **F**armers in Nigeria’s Taraba State are being forced off lands that they have farmed for generations to make way for U.S. company Dominion Farms to establish a 30,000 ha rice plantation. The project is backed by the Nigerian government and the G8’s New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa.

Two Nigerian NGOs, Environmental Rights Action Friends of the Earth Nigeria and Center for Environmental

Education and Development (CEED), visited the affected area to meet with local communities and relevant government officials. They discovered that the lands being given to Dominion Farms are part of a public irrigation scheme that thousands of families depend on for their food needs and livelihoods. The local people were not consulted about the deal with Dominion Farms and, although the company has already started to occupy the lands, they are still completely in the dark about any plans

for compensation or resettlement.

The local people are united in their opposition to the Dominion Farms project. They want their lands back so that they can continue to produce food for their families and the people of Nigeria. . . .

Read more of this post at <http://earthfirstjournal.org/newswire/2015/01/31/dominion-farms-land-grab-in-nigeria/#more-40644>.

**Nigeria** continued on next page

## Compassion Survey

*If you are a compassionate person willing to spend lots of time and energy helping others and/or the environment, how on Earth did you get that way?*

By Iona

Dear Go-Back Club Members and Others,

In writing my book, I tried to figure out how I got to be so dedicated to environmental work during my life.

Decades ago, as a novice grassroots activist, I wondered how could I get people to

care — about anything besides them selves and their families?

I have decided that this is a crucial question so I’m posing it to anyone who feels like responding.

In my own life, it’s a toss-up between my mother’s influence as shown in “There is a Yearning in my Heart” (a song she com-

posed as a young woman, see page 12) or my having had asthma and wanting to become a nurse. In my 40s, my dream was to help people stop hurting each other; now I would add “and the Earth.”

Please email your answers to me at [ionacconner@pa.net](mailto:ionacconner@pa.net) and I’ll put them in next time. Thank you!

## GBC Member, Ekwe Chiwundu Charles, Describes Situation in His Country; Hopes to Start NGO to Help Starving Children

Nigeria *continued from page 2*

*(Received this email after sending action alert link to story on previous page)*

By Ekwe Chiwundu Charles, Nigeria

I am not surprised at all, that is a real Nigerian situation greed, deprivation and intimidation, That's the way thing are run over here.

Our system is too corrupt and the politicians are self centered and too greedy to consider the poor farmers who livelihoods are about to be cut short.

They only care about what they are getting from that deal that's all. If it will actually lead to development and freedom from poverty they don't care that's why you see that the farmers were not informed about anything. You will be amazed to find out that these greedy politicians have already collected money for compensation which were supposed to be given to the affected farmers but we all know that they will never get a dime without a fight.

The government is so corrupt and that's why you find out that malnutrition kills half a million Nigerian children daily. Here poor feeding conditions and acute malnutrition is reported to kill no fewer than 500,000 Nigerian children, under the age of five, annually, out of over a million of them that suffer the condition every year.

This was disclosed by the Deputy Director and Head of Nutrition Division of the Federal Ministry on Health at the 31st National Scientific Conference organized by the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria. Which I attended. Malnutrition is rampant in Nigeria because our leaders are not affected by hunger in any way.

According to his speech 30% of Nigerian children are under weight enough for their ages, meaning they don't weigh enough for their ages adding that percentage of children who are wasted or too thin for their heights has also steadily increased.

Over the last decade, it has risen from 11% to 18% in 2013, you will agree with me that we are indeed faced with a national challenge. This is worsened by the fact that nearly four out of five Nigerian children do not meet the the WHO recommendation for exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months of life. In the creeks of Niger Delta you will witness stunted children every were who have poor physical growth and brain development, preventing them from thriving and living up to their full potentials.

I feel since the government are not doing much concerned well placed individuals should take up the challenge in other to avert malnutrition by donating packaged milk to poor communities ensuring that the child has the best possible opportunity to grow, learn and also rise out of poverty.

I am currently working on an NGO called Milk Basket here we will donate milk to malnourished children all over Nigeria



Photo Provided

*Ekwe Chiwundu Charles attended the conference titled "Food, Nutrition and Wellness: Key to National Transformation Agenda." He is starting an NGO to provide milk to starving children in Nigeria.*

especially in the interior riverine areas of Nigeria. I even came up with a Theme "You can make a difference by donating a tin of milk to a malnourished child in Africa today"!! I know it will take a lot of work and finance but am sure working on it.

The same stream of life that runs through my veins night and day runs through the world and dances in rhythmic measures.

Rabindranath Tagore, Gitanjali LXIX

Submitted by Carole Baker, Pennsylvania

## News Briefs Submitted by Our Members

The following article was submitted by Allen Hengst, Judy Weglarski and Bob Schmetzer. Several others were submitted by Allen Hengst.

### California Authorizes Oilfield Dumping into Drinking Water

By Serdar Tumgoren, *excerpt*  
*Washington Post*: February 5, 2015

Regulators in California, the country's third-largest oil-producing state, have authorized oil companies to inject production fluids and waste into what are now federally protected aquifers more than 2,500 times, risking contamination of underground water supplies that could be used for drinking water or irrigation, state records show.

While some of the permits go back decades, an Associated Press analysis found that nearly half of those injection wells — 46 percent — were permitted or began injection in the last four years under Governor Jerry Brown, who has pushed state oil and gas regulators to speed up the permitting process.

And it happened despite warnings from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency since 2011 that state regulators were failing to do enough to shield groundwater reserves from the threat of oilfield pollution ... The injections are convenient to oil companies because drilling brings up 13 gallons of wastewater for every gallon of petroleum. And one of the easiest disposal methods is simply to send that waste back underground. The federal government is now demanding that state officials take immediate steps to find and deal with any contamination and end oil-industry operations in all aquifers set aside for families and farms. Those water supplies are especially vital because California, the nation's most populous state and its agricultural leader, is now entering the fourth year of a historic drought. ...

### Welsh Government Votes Against Fracking Due to Climate and Health Fears

By Richard Heasman  
DeSmog UK

Wales hopes to block fracking until 2021 while health and climate risks are investigated more extensively.

The proposed motion against fracking was led by opposition party Plaid Cymru



Photo: Philip A. Dwyer

Members of the Lummi Nation protested the proposed coal export terminal at Cherry Point on Sept. 21, 2012, by burning a large check stamped "Non-Negotiable." On Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015, Lummi Chairman Tim Ballew reiterated that stance, saying the tribe's treaty rights were "not for sale" and the tribe would not negotiate with the company proposing the terminal.

and supported by members of both the Welsh Labour and Tory parties. While not an official ban yet, the Welsh government has promised to "do everything within its power to prevent fracking from taking place in Wales until it is proven to be safe".

The Welsh decision follows a similar announcement from Scotland last week placing a moratorium on shale gas extraction. This means two UK constituents are now opposing Westminster's push to go "all out" for shale.

The Labour-majority Welsh Assembly promised yesterday to support the opposition party's motion against fracking in a 37 to 16 vote. ...

Antoinette Sandbach, Welsh Conservative party member, said: "A moratorium until 2021 gives sufficient time for far more research into the implications of fracking for parts of rural Wales and will allow informed decisions to be taken"... A decision is expected to be delivered next month. ...

### Lummi Nation Rejects Coal Applicant's Invitation to Negotiate

By Ralph Schwartz: February 8, 2015  
*Bellingham Herald* via Earth First! Journal

Members of the Lummi Nation protested the proposed coal export terminal at Cherry Point on September 21, 2012 by burning a

large check stamped "Non-Negotiable." On February 3, 2015, Lummi Chairman Tim Ballew reiterated that stance, saying the tribe's treaty rights were "not for sale" and the tribe would not negotiate with the company proposing the terminal.

Lummi Nation sent another clear message about a proposed coal terminal on February 3: Under no terms will it accept Gateway Pacific Terminal at Cherry Point, an area near the Lummi Reservation with cultural and economic value to the tribe.

Lummi Chairman Tim Ballew responded Tuesday to a Friday, January 30, request from terminal proponent SSA Marine to meet face to face and discuss how to "harmonize the facility with the environment"

"I can assure you that we have carefully considered the impacts associated with this project and have concluded that these impacts simply cannot be avoided, minimized, or mitigated," Ballew wrote in his response to Skip Sahlin, vice president of project development for Pacific International Terminals, an SSA Marine subsidiary created to develop Gateway Pacific Terminal.

"While we appreciate your desire to engage on these issues, we remain steadfastly opposed to this project and do not see the utility in pursuing any further discussion," Ballew added. Officials at SSA Marine had no comment. ...

News continued on next page

## News Submitted by Our Members

News continued from previous page

### Norway Divests from Coal, Will Cut Emissions 40% by 2030

By Sam Bliss, *excerpt*  
Grist: February 5, 2015

Norway's joining the divestment movement! The country's sovereign wealth fund is the richest in the world, which makes the move to take its money out of dozens of climate-crippling companies a big deal. And that's not all the good news from Norway: On Wednesday, government officials announced the country will commit to reducing emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 as its pledge to the international climate agreement that's supposed to be adopted in December at the U.N. summit in Paris ...

Last month, University College London researchers released a study showing that if we want a 50-50 chance of limiting global warming to 2 degrees C, then we need to lock up 82 percent of the world's coal reserves and stop mining Alberta's tar sands by 2020.

Accordingly, Norway ditched its investments in 14 coal mining companies, a coal-fired electricity generator, five tar-sands oil producers, and two cement makers (cement is produced by burning coal or other high-emitting fuels). In addition, the wealth fund divested from 16 coal mining operations linked to deforestation, as well as two U.S. companies that remove mountain tops to get coal. ...

### Facts Support Ban on Offshore Drilling along Eastern Seaboard

By Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley  
*The New York Times*: February 2, 2015, *excerpt*

The Obama administration's whiplash decision last week to allow oil and gas companies to drill along a wide area of the Atlantic Coast is a big mistake. The facts support a ban on offshore drilling not only in the wilds of Alaska — as the administration has announced — but also along our densely populated, economically vibrant and environmentally diverse Eastern Seaboard ...

Environmentalists said opening the Atlantic waters would put the coasts of Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia at risk for an environmental disaster like the BP spill that struck the Gulf Coast in 2010, when millions of barrels of oil washed ashore after the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon rig.

Advocacy groups in those states said that the drilling could harm tourism, fishing and other coastal industries that are already major drivers of the Southeastern economy ... [North Carolina Gov. Pat] McCrory and other Southeastern governors envision a future in which new offshore drilling stimulates job growth and new onshore industries that support it, aligning Virginia, North and South Carolina and Georgia with states like Texas and Louisiana as major offshore oil producers ...

"Risky drilling off our Southern coasts jeopardizes the communities, jobs and beloved beaches that are the very heart of our coastal states," said Sierra Weaver, a senior attorney with the Southern Environmental Law Center. "Our coastal economies are the backbone of hundreds of towns and cities along the Southern coast, providing thousands of jobs, multibillion-dollar tourism industries, multimillion-dollar fishing industries, and critical local tax revenues."

### Burlington Powers Green Movement on Renewable Energy

PBS Newshour: January 31, 2015, *excerpt*

**WILLIAM BRANGHAM:** Burlington, Vermont, the state's largest city, recently became the first in the country to use 100 percent renewable energy for its residents' electricity needs. In a state known for socially conscious policies, the feat represents a milestone in the growing green energy movement ... And it's all coming from renewable sources of energy like wind and solar and hydroelectric ... Taylor Ricketts is a professor of Environmental Science at the University of Vermont. He says Burlington has shown that cities can play a role in addressing our dependence on burning fossil fuels ...

**TAYLOR RICKETTS:** Look climate change is the biggest problem we face, maybe the biggest problem we've ever faced. But there's no silver bullet to fix it. It's gonna be a million individual solutions from all over the place ...

**BRANGHAM:** Ken Nolan helps run Burlington Electric, the local utility company that supplies power to the city's 42,000 residents ... Burlington, and Vermont at large, has plenty of economic reasons to try and do their part to tackle climate change: Vermont's iconic, multi-million dollar industries — skiing and maple syrup



Photo from  
*Hydropolydropower s*

— are as dependent on the climate as any industry in the U.S. ...

**KEN NOLAN:** The city is always looking at the environmental impact ... But in looking at whether to buy renewable power, we really were focused on an economic decision at the time. So our financial analysis at that time indicated to our — actually, to our surprise — that the cheapest long term financial investment for us with the least amount of risk was to move in this direction. ...

**RICKETTS:** There's nothing magic about Burlington in terms of where it sits. It's not a lot windier here, or a lot more rivers here, and certainly not a lot sunnier here than lots of parts of the U.S. It was just a bunch of decisions made over ten years or more, to get towards renewable energy. ...

### Thousands of Birds Liberated from Game Farm in Spain

anonymous report (translation) / Bite Back  
Earth First! Newswire

During the night of the Spanish 'King's' holiday January 5 to 6, members of the Spanish Animal Liberation Front liberated more than 1,000 partridges, quails and some pheasants from a farm where they were destined to be bred for hunting in Navarre (a region in Spain).

They also did paints, sabotaged electrical system, vehicles, smashed cages and water supply among others.

They also liberated hundreds of sheep who were kept in a nearby farm that night.

Until last cage is empty.



Photo supplied by author

(left) Dorothy Stowe, Rex Weyler and Dorothy Metcalfe;. (right) The sinking of the Rainbow Warrior was an operation by the “action” branch of the French foreign intelligence services, carried out July 10, 1985. During the operation, two operatives sank the flagship of the Greenpeace fleet, in the port of Auckland, New Zealand on its way to a protest against a planned French nuclear test in Moruroa. Fernando Pereira, a photographer, drowned on the sinking ship. (Wikipedia)

## The Women Who Founded Greenpeace

By Rex Weyler

Deep Green blogpost: September 17, 2010

***“A lot of people are waiting for Martin Luther King Jr. or Mahatma Gandhi to come back, but they are gone. We are it.”  
— Marian Wright Edelman***

Although men got most of the headlines in the early Greenpeace campaigns, many strong and visionary women helped bring Greenpeace to life. The family of Greenpeace co-founder Dorothy Stowe — who passed away in July — hosted a memorial for her on 7 August at the Unitarian Church in Vancouver, Canada. The programme included the quote above. Several of the other women who helped found Greenpeace — Dorothy Metcalfe, Zoe Hunter and others — attended the service.

Dorothy Stowe was the first president of her local civic employees union in Rhode Island, where she faced repressive McCarthy era attacks. She spent her wedding night at a civil rights dinner, campaigned against nuclear weapons, and immigrated to Canada with her husband Irving in protest against the U.S.-Vietnam war. She helped launch the first Greenpeace campaign, and hosted early Greenpeace meetings in her home. Dorothy always served food at these meetings, sometimes tea and cookies, and infused the radical politics with a calming sense of family and community.

Marie Bohlen (Nonnast) was a nature illustrator, a Sierra Club member and a

pacifist. Upon the birth of her son, Paul, she vowed that he would never go to war. She met Jim Bohlen at a Quaker peace march in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1958. They married and she introduced him to the Quaker Society of Friends and the Sierra Club. When Paul became eligible for the U.S. military in 1967, they immigrated to Vancouver, Canada, where they met the Stowes and co-founded the Don't Make A Wave Committee, which would later become Greenpeace.

In February 1970, while discussing how to stop U.S. nuclear bomb tests in Alaska, Marie proposed the idea of sailing a boat up to the test site and confronting the bomb. This, of course, became the first Greenpeace campaign. Since the voyage had been her idea, Marie intended to represent the Quakers on the boat. In the end, she decided to remain in Vancouver and work with Dorothy Stowe and the others. Thus, the Phyllis Cormack — the first Greenpeace boat — carried only men. Bob Hunter later commented in a newspaper interview that this had been a mistake and that the half of the crew should have been women.

The BC Voice of Women, led by Deeno Birmingham, played a key role in that first campaign, raising funds and petitioning the Canadian government to support the protest. Deeno drafted her husband, Dave Birmingham, to serve as engineer on the Phyllis Cormack. Lille d'Easum, a director

of the Voice of Women, wrote the first Greenpeace technical report, a study of radiation effects.

Dorothy Metcalfe (Harris) had been a reporter at the *Winnipeg Tribune* when she met journalist Ben Metcalfe. They married and travelled to Europe in the 1950s, filing stories for the North America Newspaper Alliance. During the first Greenpeace campaign she converted her home into a radio room, relaying radio reports from Ben — who was on the Phyllis Cormack — to the world's media. When the US delayed the test, and the crew contemplated safe harbour in Kodiak, Alaska, Dorothy encouraged them to push on toward the Aleutian Islands. “The momentum is building,” she advised. Dorothy lobbied Canadian Members of Parliament, which resulted in three motions urging the US to cancel the test. She called Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's office, insisting he travel to Washington to confront the Americans. Through the media she sent a message “from the wives and families of the men on board the Greenpeace. Our men are risking their lives... for the benefit of all mankind.” When she accused Trudeau of being cowardly, some supporters thought she had gone too far. “This is a democracy,” Dorothy Metcalfe insisted. “People have a responsibility to speak their minds.”

During the French nuclear campaign, Dorothy Metcalfe once again provided the media centre. She also attended the first UN environmental meeting in Stockholm and

**Women** continued on next page



## Oil Worker Strike Spreads To Ohio, Indiana

By Earth First! Field Correspondent Ari Phillips: February 8, 2015

Photo: BP refinery in Whiting, Indiana

On Sunday, workers at two BP oil refineries in Ohio and Indiana walked out as part of a nationwide oil worker strike being led by the United Steelworkers Union. Citing unfair labor practices and dangerous conditions, including leaks and explosions, the approximately 1,440 workers will join nearly 4,000 that began striking a week ago on February 1.

The first nationwide strike by oil refinery workers since 1980, the addition of BP's Whiting, Indiana, refinery and the company's joint-venture refinery with Husky Energy in Toledo, Ohio, brings the total number of plants with strikers to 11, including refineries accounting for about 13 percent of total U.S. oil refining capacity. The original strike included workers in California, Kentucky, Texas and Washington. ...

**Women** *continued from page 8*

arranged an audience with the Pope at the Vatican to bless the Greenpeace flag.

Zoe Hunter (Rahim), a member of the UK Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, met Bob Hunter in London in 1962. She introduced him to the pacifist work of Bertrand Russell and took him on the 1963 peace march to the Aldermaston nuclear facility, Hunter's first political protest. They married and had two children, Conan and Justine. Zoe worked with Dorothy Stowe and Dorothy Metcalfe to provision the first two Greenpeace ships. Today, she works with Amnesty International in Canada.

*"One must think like a hero to behave like a merely decent human being."*

— May Sarton

The first two women to sail on a Greenpeace campaign were Ann-Marie Horne and Mary Lornie from New Zealand, onboard the Vega, which sailed into the French nuclear test site at Moruroa Atoll in 1973. When French sailors boarded the Vega and assaulted David McTaggart and Nigel Ingram, Ann-Marie snapped photographs and Mary Lornie took video footage. The French confiscated the video camera, but Ann-Marie was able to successfully smuggle her film past French security. France claimed, "Our men boarded his vessel unarmed and without striking a single blow" and suggested that McTaggart suffered his wounds by falling on a cleat while "attempting to throw our sailors back into the sea." Ann-Marie's photographs, however — which showed the beatings of McTaggart and Ingram — appeared around the world and proved that the French government had lied about the attack.

Artist and musician Linda Spong helped launch the Greenpeace whale campaign with her husband Paul. In 1974, they travelled to Japan with their son Yasha, and interpreters Maya Koizumi and Michiko Sakata, to build a pro-whale movement among Japanese scientists and supporters. In 1977, she served

on the Greenpeace boat, Meander, which blockaded a vessel carrying representatives from 15 oil companies promoting an oil tanker port in northern British Columbia. To this day, Linda is active in the campaign to ban oil tankers from the Canadian coast.

Taeko Miwa and Carlie Trueman sailed on the first Greenpeace whale campaign. Trueman, an avid diver, was the first Greenpeace Zodiac specialist, and trained the crews in the operation and maintenance of the inflatable boats that would become a Greenpeace icon. Miwa was a student and environmentalist from Japan who had witnessed the devastating mercury poisoning in Minamata Bay. She ran campaigns against air pollution in Japan and served as Greenpeace's Japanese translator.

Bobbi Hunter (Innes) helped launch the first whale campaign, managed the first public Greenpeace office in Vancouver, and raised much of the money for the first whale and seal campaigns. As project manager for a cable company, she had tracked the workflow of hundreds of technicians, and she applied these skills to Greenpeace; Bobbi became a key figure in organising a disjointed Greenpeace group that was running three campaigns with modest income. In 1976, Bobbi and Marilyn Kaga were the first women to blockade a whaling ship, the Russian Vlasny harpoon boat.

By the time of the whale and seal campaigns in the 1970s, women were regularly serving on the front line of Greenpeace actions. Eileen Chivers, Henrietta Nielson, Bonnie MacLeod, Bree Drummond, Mary-Lee Brassard, Susi Leger and other women served on the whale and seal campaigns during that era.

*"If I dreamed natural dreams of being a natural*

*woman doing what a woman does when she's natural, I would have a revolution."*

— Nikki Giovanni

Meanwhile, in London, Susi Newborn and Denise Bell acquired and outfitted the first ship that Greenpeace ever owned, the Rainbow Warrior. Newborn and Bell, who wanted to confront Icelandic whalers in the North Pacific, found the 134-foot trawler Sir William Hardy, raised the money to purchase it, and drafted Newborn's childhood friend Athel von Koettlitz to help them restore the ship to life. In the spring of 1978, the ship set sail with an international crew representing the Netherlands, France, the UK, South Africa, Switzerland, New Zealand, Australia, the US and Canada. They confronted Icelandic and Spanish whalers and exposed the UK ship Gem, illegally dumping nuclear waste into the ocean. Newborn wrote a personal account of the Rainbow Warrior story, *A Bonfire in My Mouth*.

The Rainbow Warrior name came from a small book, *Warriors of the Rainbow*, by Aleut elder William Willoya and Vinson Brown. In the story 'Return of the Indian Spirit' a 12-year-old boy asks his Great Grandmother, Eyes of the Fire, "Why have such bad things happened to our people?" The Grandmother tells the boy of a prophecy that someday people from all the races of the world will join together to save the Earth from destruction and that these people will be known as Warriors of the Rainbow. This story inspired the Rainbow Warrior tradition in Greenpeace and to this day, the Grandmother — Eyes of the Fire — continues to shed her powerful light and vision over Greenpeace.

Deep Green is Rex Weyler's column, reflecting on the roots of activism, environmentalism, and Greenpeace's past, present, and future. The opinions here are his own. Source: <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/news/Blogs/makingwaves/deep-green-the-women-who-founded-greenpeace/blog/26428/>

# Biodiversity: Monarch Bounce Back, But Still Need Help

## Population still near historic lows

By Bob Berwyn  
Summit County Citizens Voice  
January 30, 2015

FRISCO — Monarch butterfly populations may have rebounded a bit this year, according to the annual overwintering count, but the species is still going to need help to recover, conservation advocates say, urging the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to give the colorful insects Endangered Species Act protection.

This year's count estimated that 56.5 million monarchs are currently gathered in Mexico for the winter, up from last year's lowest ever total of 34 million. But that's still more than 80 percent below the 20-year average and down 95 percent from numbers tallied in the mid-1990s. Near-perfect conditions during breeding season helped bolster the numbers this year.

"The population increase is welcome news, but the monarch must reach a much larger population size to be able to bounce back from ups and downs, so this much-loved butterfly still needs Endangered Species Act protection to ensure that it's around for future generations," said Tierra Curry, a senior scientist with the Center for Biological Diversity.

Found throughout the United States during summer months, most monarchs from east of the Rockies winter in the mountains of central Mexico, where they form tight clusters on trees. Scientists from World Wildlife Fund Mexico estimate the population size by counting the number of hectares of trees covered by monarchs.

Monarchs need a very large population size to be resilient to threats from severe weather events, pesticides, climate change, disease and predation. A single winter storm in 2002 killed an estimated 500 million monarchs, more than eight times the size of the current population even with this year's boost.

Concerns over the extinction risk of the monarch led the Center for Biological Diversity, Center for Food Safety, the



Photo by Bob Berwyn

*Can monarch butterflies survive massive habitat loss?*

Xerces Society and renowned monarch scientist Dr. Lincoln Brower to petition the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in August to protect the butterfly as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. In December, the Service announced that protection may be warranted for the monarch and is now conducting a one-year review of its status.

The butterfly's dramatic decline has been driven in large part by the widespread planting of genetically engineered crops in the Midwest, where most monarchs are born. The vast majority of genetically engineered crop acres are in varieties made to be resistant to Monsanto's Roundup herbicide, a potent killer of milkweed, the monarch caterpillar's only food.

The dramatic surge in the use of Roundup and other herbicides with the same active ingredient (glyphosate) with Roundup Ready crops has virtually wiped out milkweed plants in Midwest corn and soybean fields. In the past 20 years it is estimated that these once-common, iconic orange-and-black butterflies may have lost more than 165 million acres of habitat — an area about the size of Texas — including nearly a third of their summer breeding grounds.

There has been a widespread effort to

encourage people to plant milkweed to help the monarchs, but planting the wrong species of milkweed or planting pesticide-treated milkweed can actually harm the butterflies. The planting of tropical milkweed that doesn't die back in the winter increases the risk of disease-related death for monarchs and interferes with migration.

Planting milkweed and other flowers that have been treated with neonicotinoids or other systemic insecticides can also harm the very butterflies that gardeners are trying to help save. Most insecticide-treated plants are unlabelled, so consumers must ask retailers about the stock to make sure they aren't planting flowers that could be lethal to pollinators.

Logging on the monarch's Mexican wintering grounds is also a conservation concern, although Mexican authorities have made great progress in reducing the amount of logging in these locations. Scientists

have predicted that climate change could render large parts of the monarch's summer range in the states unsuitable due to changing temperatures and increased risk of drought, heat waves and severe storms. The monarch's entire winter range in Mexico could become climatically unstable by the end of the century.

The Fish and Wildlife Service will issue a "12-month finding" on the pending monarch petition in December 2015 that will propose protection under the Endangered Species Act, reject protection under the Act or add the butterfly to the candidate waiting list for protection.

This year's winter count of monarchs from the western United States that overwinter on the California coast shows the population of around 235,000 monarchs holding steady after undergoing an approximately 50-percent decline from the 18-year average.

The Summit County Citizens Voice is a web site dedicated to reporting unfiltered and uncensored news from Summit County and beyond. Editor Bob Berwyn has been based in Summit County since 1996 and has reported for several newspapers, High Country News and 5280 magazine.

## Vegetarian/Vegan Page

By Pyong Ui Roh  
International Nature Loving Association  
Deagu, Korea

**T**he *China Study: The Most Comprehensive Study of Nutrition Ever Conducted And the Startling Implications for Diet, Weight Loss, And Long-term Health* by Thomas Campbell and T. Colin Campbell is an evidence-based and comprehensive book, which explains the cause-effect relationship between chronic diseases and animal based diets.

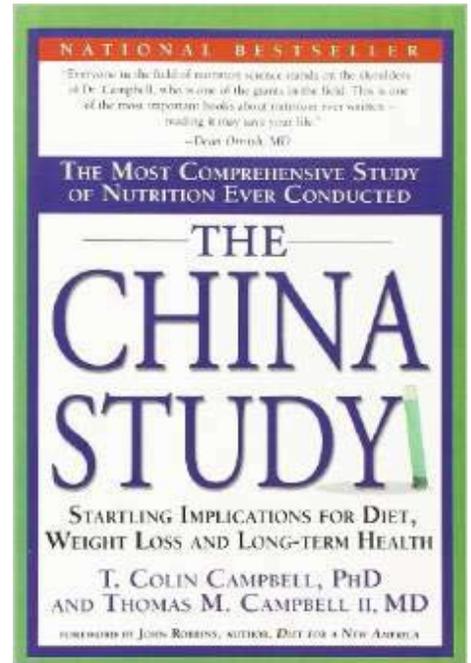
Dr. Campbell conducted many researches using animals in laboratory. And the results of the animal studies show that many diseases, including cancer, are promoted by animal-based foods. He thinks that many diseases of affluence such as obesity, diabetes, heart problems, stroke and arthritis are caused by animal-based diets.

He also conducted an extensive epidemiological study in China. He found that people in rural areas who take less animal-based diets have fewer chronic diseases than those living in big cities who take more animal-based foods.

*The New York Times Book Review* says, "The study can be considered the Grand Prix of Epidemiology."

*The China Study* also mentioned that the medical system in America is not right. And the industries of meat, dairy products, eggs and food processing use their influence on academia and health professionals in order to promote the sales of their products. And the medical professionals are more interested in pills and procedures rather than nutritional intervention.

This book is a great health guide book which gives us guidance and warnings. This book is a voice of conscience of a scientist.



*And Now for a Four-Course Vegan Meal Brought to You from Malaysia*



Photos by Collin Yeoh

Start off with a nice, warm soup (top left) followed by the main dish served so beautifully (top right). Don't forget your veggies (bottom left) and, of course, a sweet pastry for dessert (bottom right). No animals were hurt to prepare this meal and it's extremely healthful, as you can see from Pyong's report above on *The China Study*. "Bon Appétit!"



# Letters and Emails from our Members



Remember your dreams. Photo by Iona



(“In the order in which they were received.”)

**Iona,**

Thank you for resending the newsletter! All is well here with Karen and I, hope you and John are having a “HAPPY NEW YEAR” and in good health.

We just read an interesting book by: Kristin Ohlson: *The Soil Will Save Us*. This book explains about soil fertility aiding carbon reduction. Gives a real understanding of how microorganisms in the soil help with aiding climate change.

Also, we are now into a book by Naomi Klein, *This Changes Everything*. It Explains about how Capitalism is hindering Climate Change, a real mind altering read! These books were recommended by Dan Adams at the last FCEAG meeting.

Thanks for your dedicated publishing! We appreciate all of your enlightening articles.  
**Donald Rosenberger**, Pennsylvania

[Email #1] **Dear Iona,**

I just researched UK parliament. 617 in the House of Commons want to stop Global Warming. Also 552 in the House of Lords want to stop global warming.

Compare that to the 15 in house of Commons that want to do the opposite and the 161 in the house of Lords . Unless it is passed by nongovernmental Control of parliament (which today’s day and age it is almost impossible to do ) or it has to do with government money or David Cameron breaks in and controls it by force or becomes a dictator . It is not going to happen. But I still agree with protesting about it .

[Email #2]

Please go to UN Framework convention on climate change web site then click on Kyoto Protocol. (We didn’t sign to Kyoto Protocol , but we are part of UNFCCC so and the Kyoto Protocol is the main body law of UNFCCC and we did sign to the treaty that the Kyoto Protocol is in.) Okay Now go down to the part that it says that by 2000 the CO<sub>2</sub> Levels have to be at the 1990 level and stay there.

Now go to the IPCC report on your web site and go down to the CO<sub>2</sub> graph . You’ll

get a surprise. (Look at the year 1990 level , 2010 level and 2000 level.)

[Email #3]

Did you know that the Federated States of Micronesia (a country I don’t consider a country because it relies too much on the U.S.) lobbies to stop Global Warming to the point it won’t talk about anything else in the UN (Which I think is great. There isn’t anything wrong with that. I mean it’s Very Very Very good.) It would be easy to get someone from there. Since the U.S. Department of Defense does their military work. (More than that ) Also USDOD is concerned about it for National Security reasons. So maybe (This sounds silly) “Declare War on Climate Change ” (without declaring war.) Just give them the idea, tools and people (meaning scientists). We could do that.

**Here are some petitions:**

\*Stop Anti-wind Groups from blocking clean energy

\*Stop Kinder Morgan’s Reckless pipeline projects

\*Tell Secretary Kerry: Support zero by 2050

\*Don’t put a climate-change denier in charge of us environmental policy

\*Urge lawmakers: Reduce pollution from trucks on the road

\*Don’t leave the Sumatran rhino to die (don’t do the one about the South African military not doing anything (because it is doing something))

\*Kenya: give presidential armed protection to your “Last great Tusker” elephants

\*Protect your community from dangerous smog

\*Tell the EPA : protect our children from bad air.

**Brendan Wissinger**, Pennsylvania (13)

**Thank you, Iona** — Beautiful edition and I love the cover! All well done —

**Sandy Chilcote**, Newfoundland, Canada

**Dear Iona, sister in the Universe,**

What a wonderful job! You must be a born editor. Who else? I will teach a regular course for my students. On top of that I will be involved in mentoring a group of students. I have golden opportunities to preach the

doctrine of our belief on Nature Loving.

It has not snowed here at Daegu and I do not have a challenge to shovel the heavy stuff. The weather is very cooperative. But bad news is that the fauna of plants and trees have been changing. Daegu was very famous for apples, but not anymore. Apples moved to north. It is too hot for apples and they fled away from hot temperature belt to cold ones. This is one evidence of climate change.

**Pyong Rho**, brother in the Universe, Korea.

**Hi Iona,**

Your book, *The Pipeline and the Paradigm* is here. I enjoyed your newsletter, especially the article about the Juniata student who is living like Thoreau, since I just finished reading *Walden*.

**Jamie Brambley**

Fulton County Library Director

**Dear Iona,**

About the link you sent me, it’s the case everywhere in the world from oil-spill pollution of aquatic life to destruction of plants in our farms over in the Niger Delta. It’s a big problem that needs to be handled before it eventually gets out of hand. Who will put an end to all this pollution and destruction of plants leading to more hunger and poverty? I keep asking myself when all this will stop.

Thanks again for all your encouragements, I want you to know that I am currently working on another article for the next edition of the newsbooklet. Am thinking of something that will inspire people all around the world somehow.

**Ekwe Chiwundu Charles**, Nigeria

**Hi Iona,**

I am volunteering for Jane Goodall’s blog which is part of her organization. I am helping with her books. We are both horrified by extinction. She spends 300 days a year traveling to tell people to not lose hope. It’s easy to do, given the level of ecological damage. She is a very upbeat person; I’ve spoken with her a couple of times. The message is that we must not give up.

**Bill Boteler**, Washington, D.C.